Given your interest in health care, I want to let you know about another important development in the efforts to repeal ObamaCare. Today, for the second time, a federal judge – this time a federal district court judge in Florida – ruled that the new health care law's requirement that nearly every American purchase government-sanctioned health insurance, even if they can't afford it, is unconstitutional. In the case brought by 26 States, the National Federation of Independent Business, and two individuals, Judge Roger Vinson held that the individual mandate is not a constitutional exercise of Congress' Commerce Clause power. Additionally, in an important development, Judge Vinson struck down the entire law citing the lack of a severability clause, meaning that if one part of the law is found to be unconstitutional, the entire law is deemed unconstitutional.

This is the <u>second time</u> a federal judge has determined that the federal government does not have the constitutional authority to require every American to buy government-approved health insurance. The ruling is another firm rebuke of Obamacare and strikes at the core of the law's infringement on individual freedom. The House of Representatives has already voted to repeal the unconstitutional health care law. I believe we must keep fighting to overturn Obamacare and replace it with real health care reforms that lower costs while preserving Americans' constitutional freedoms.

The 26 states participating in the Florida lawsuit are: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. On January 21, 2011, Oklahoma became the 28th State to challenge the constitutionality of ObamaCare's individual mandate, filing a lawsuit against the Administration in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Oklahoma.